

Message Text

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ACTION SCS-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 SNM-02

NSC-05 DEAE-00 JUSE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 /029 W

-----270054Z 069226 /63

O 270018Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

INFO AMCONSUL MAZATLAN PRIORITY

UNCLAS MEXICO 08421

EO: 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, CASC, MX

SUBJECT: VISIT OF CONGRESSMAN GILMAN

1. AS ADDRESSEES AWARE, CONGRESSMAN GILMAN AND OTHER CONGRESSMEN ARE IN HERMOSILLO FOR INTERPARLIAMENTARY TALKS. GILMAN REQUESTED DEA ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING GOM AIRCRAFT TO DEPART HERMOSILLO TO CATCH A FLIGHT IN PHOENIX IN TIME TO REACH ANOTHER COMMITMENT IN EASTERN UNITED STATES. NARCOTICS ATTACHE OBTAINED ATTORNEY GENERAL'S EXECUTIVE JET FOR THIS PURPOSE.

2. UNFORTUNATELY, AG EXECUTIVE JET SUFFERED ENGINE FAILURE IN FLIGHT MAY 26 AND WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE. AG THEREFORE PLANS TO USE BEECH BARON WHICH WAS SEIZED IN OCTOBER AND WAS ALREADY SCHEDULED FOR RETURN TO U.S. OWNER MAY 27. PLANE WILL ARRIVE HERMOSILLO LATE MORNING OR EARLY AFTERNOON OF MAY 27 PILOTED BY CAPTAIN MOSQUIEDA. MOSQUIEDA, WHO HAS BEEN TOLD GILMAN'S CONNECTING FLIGHT DEPARTS PHOENIX AT 23:00 MAY 27, UNDERSTANDS THAT GILMAN WILL BE READY TO DEPART HERMOSILLO AT OR ABOUT 20:00. MOSQUIEDA EXPECTS TO BE MET AT HERMOSILLO AIRPORT BY DEA SAIC SALINAS. WILL TELEPHONE ETA TO SALINAS WHEN AVAILABLE.

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3. AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO SHOULD BRIEF GILMAN ON FACT THAT AIRCRAFT IS BEING RETURNED TO U.S. OWNER UNDER NEW PROGRAM ESTABLISHED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES. THE AIRCRAFT (N7271R) WAS REPORTED STOLEN FROM PHOENIX AND WAS FOUND ABANDONED IN CULIACAN ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER 21 AND TAKEN INTO CUSTODY BY MINISTERIO PUBLICO IN CULIACAN.

ATTEMPTS BY THE REGISTERED OWNER (ELMER BRADLEY CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, P.O. BOX 26669, TEMPE, ARIZONA 85282) AND INSURANCE COMPANY (CTH AVIATION UNDER-WRITERS, 855 RIDGE LAKE BLVD, PO BOX 17971, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38117) TO RECOVER AIRCRAFT FROM PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATION WERE UNSUCCESSFUL. FOLLOWING PROCEDURES DEVELOPED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL FLORES AND EMBASSY, EMBASSY FORMALLY REQUESTED RETURN ON APRIL 11. PLANE RELEASED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL ON MAY SIX. ACTUAL RETURN WAS DELAYED BECAUSE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S ORDER AUTHORIZED RELEASE TO RUTH MATTHEWS, PRINCIPAL OFFICER AT MAZATLAN, WHO IS ON HOME LEAVE. EMBASSY HAD TO REQUEST REISSUE OF RELEASE AUTHORIZATION IN NAME OF ACTING PRINCIPAL OFFICER.

4. SPECIAL ASSISTANT CALLED OWNER-OF-RECORD (BRADLEY) MAY 26 AND WAS ADVISED BY HIS OFFICE THAT INSURANCE COMPANY HAD SETTLED CLAIM. BRADLEY'S OFFICE SUGGESTED EMBASSY CALL ROBERT PITMAN AT DON MAHONEY INSURANCE AGENCY. SPECIAL ASSISTANT CONTACTED PITMAN, WHO CONFIRMED THAT SETTLEMENT HAD BEEN MADE AND FURTHER CONFIRMED THAT INSURANCE COMPANY HAD LEGAL INTEREST IN AIRCRAFT. PITMAN WAS TOLD THAT NORMAL PROCEDURE REQUIRED OWNER OR REPRESENTATIVE TO COME TO MEXICO TO OBTAIN AIRCRAFT BUT, TO ACCOMMODATE GILMAN, ATTORNEY GENERAL WAS WILLING TO FLY AIRCRAFT TO PHOENIX. PITMAN WAS DELIGHTED.

5. PITMAN STATED THAT PLANE WOULD BE MET BY JOHN
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ROHWER, MANAGER OF AMERICAN NATIONAL GENERAL AGENCY, WHICH IS BROKER FOR CHARTER NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY. EMBASSY FILES CONTAIN NOTARIZED STATEMENT FROM BRADLEY APPOINTING CHARTER NATIONAL AND OR ANY REPRESENTATIVES APPOINTED BY THEM TO DEAL WITH GOM FOR RELEASE OF AND THE TRANSPORTING OF AIRCRAFT FROM MEXICO TO THE UNITED STATES. ROHWER WILL HAVE PROOF OF OWNERSHIP WITH HIM AT AIRPORT.

6. REQUEST AMCONSUL HERMOSILLO SEND CONSULAR OFFICER TO PHOENIX WITH GILMAN TO OBTAIN RECEIPT FOR AIRCRAFT. PITMAN AGREED PROVIDE RETURN AIRFARE TO HERMOSILLO. HIS PHONE IS (602) 963-5342. CALDERHEAD

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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TAGS: SNAR, CASC, MX, (GILMAN, BENJAMIN A)
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